

20/586854  
07/20/2006  
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Norio TANAKA et al.

New U.S. National Phase of PCT/JP2005/004895

Filed: July 20, 2006

Docket No.: 128794

For: OPTICALLY CONTROLLED OPTICAL-PATH-SWITCHING-TYPE DATA  
DISTRIBUTION APPARATUS AND DISTRIBUTION METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

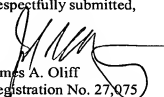
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of one or more non-English language reference is discussed in the present specification. See References 2-13.
- ☒ 3. One or more reference cited herein was cited in the International Search Report. An English language version of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. See References 14 and 15.
- ☒ 4. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.
- ☒ 5. An English language Abstract of one or more non-English language reference is attached hereto. See References 2-13.

- ☒ 6. A computer-generated English language translation of one or more Japanese Patent Publication cited herein has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office (<http://www.jpo.go.jp>), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 2-9 and 11-13.
- ☒ 7. Reference 1 corresponds to reference 14.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Joel S. Armstrong  
Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA/jdb

Date: July 20, 2006

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 1/06)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 128794		New U.S. National Phase of PCT/JP2005/004895  <b>10/586854</b>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Norio TANAKA et al.			
				FILING DATE July 20, 2006			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Name			
/MC/	1	6,452,710 B1	9/17/2002	Hiraga et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Country	With English Abstract	With English Translation	
/MC/	2	JP A 8-286220	11/1/1996	Japan	X	X	
	3	JP A 8-320535	12/3/1996	Japan	X	X	
	4	JP A 8-320536	12/3/1996	Japan	X	X	
	5	JP A 9-329816	12/22/1997	Japan	X	X	
	6	JP A 10-090733	4/10/1998	Japan	X	X	
	7	JP A 10-090734	4/10/1998	Japan	X	X	
	8	JP A 10-148852	6/2/1998	Japan	X	X	
	9	JP A 10-148853	6/2/1998	Japan	X	X	
	10	JP A 60-014221	1/24/1985	Japan	X		
	11	JP A 11-194373	7/21/1999	Japan	X	X	
	12	JP A 2004-109892	4/8/2004	Japan	X	X	
	13	JP A 2005-234356	9/2/2005	Japan	X	X	
	14	EP 1 011 007 A1	6/21/2000	Europe			
/MC/	15	WO 2004/027508 A1	4/1/2004	WIPO			
OTHER DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)					
EXAMINER  /Michelle Connelly Cushwa/				DATE CONSIDERED 12/05/2009			
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							